

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Tuesday, February 17, 2015

## What A Weekend!



### Aruba's Carnaval Comes To A Close

A participant dressed in a colorful costume enjoys the Grand Parade of Aruba's Carnaval 61 in San Nicolas, Saturday, February 14, 2015.

(Aruba Today Photo)

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An advertisement for Shiva's Gold & Gems. It features several diamond rings, including a large yellow diamond ring and a cluster diamond ring. The Shiva's logo is at the bottom left. Text at the bottom provides contact information for two locations: Royal Plaza Mall, Oranjestad, Aruba (Tel: (297) 583-4077 - Fax: (297) 582-6791) and Palm Beach Plaza Mall, Palm Beach, Aruba (Tel: (297) 583-4077 - Fax: (297) 582-6791).

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## Source: Slain suspect in Copenhagen attacks just out of jail



Hundreds of people gather for a vigil near the cultural club in Copenhagen, Denmark, Monday, Feb. 16, 2015. The slain gunman behind two deadly shooting attacks in Copenhagen was released from jail just two weeks ago and might have become radicalized there last summer, a source close to the Danish terror investigation told The Associated Press on Monday.

(AP Photo/Michael Probst)

JAN M. OLSEN

KARL RITTER

Associated Press

COPENHAGEN, Denmark

(AP) — The slain gunman behind two deadly shooting attacks in Copenhagen was released from jail just two weeks ago and might have become radicalized there last summer, a source close to the Danish terror investigation told The Associated Press on Monday. Two Danish sources close to the investigation confirmed to the AP that the slain gunman was named Omar Abdel Hamid El-Hussein. They spoke on condition of anonymity because Copenhagen police have not named the gunman, who they said was a 22-year-old Dane with a history of violence and gang connections. Several Danish media have already named him. One source told the AP that El-Hussein had been in pre-trial detention for a long time but was released two weeks ago. He also said the corrections authority had alerted Danish security service PET last year after they noticed worrisome changes in El-Hussein's behavior last summer.

He wouldn't give specifics but said such alerts are issued when inmates change their attitude or

behavior in way that "sets off alarm bells."

PET spokeswoman Lotte Holmstrup declined to comment on the report, saying "we are working on finding out what has happened."

PET director Jens Madsen on Sunday confirmed that the gunman was known to the agency before the weekend attacks in Copenhagen that killed two people and wounded five police officers. He said the gunman may have been inspired by last month's terror attacks by Islamic extremists in Paris that killed 17 people, but did not elaborate on when his agency began tracking him.

The news about the suspected gunman came as Danes mourned the victims of the country's first fatal terror attacks in 30 years — and, in an unusual development, some also put flowers on the street at the spot where police killed El-Hussein.

The prime ministers of Denmark and Sweden were expected to join thousands of people at memorials in Copenhagen on Monday evening.

While a Danish court on Monday jailed two suspected accomplices of El-Hussein's for 10 days, Prime

Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt insisted there were no signs the gunman had any links to a wider terror cell.

"But we will, of course, in the coming time evaluate our fight against radicalization. We are already doing a lot," she said.

In November 2013, police distributed photos of El-Hussein because he was wanted for a stabbing on a subway train in Copenhagen. At the time, police said he stabbed a 19-year-old man in his left thigh with a large knife.

It wasn't immediately clear whether he was in pre-trial

detention for that crime. Investigators on Monday released more information about the gunman's movements between the attacks, one Saturday afternoon at a cultural center and another early Sunday outside a synagogue, both in Copenhagen.

Police spokesman Joergen Skov said the gunman visited an Internet cafe late Saturday, about six-and-a-half hours after the first attack. Police raided the facility on Sunday and detained four people, including the two men arraigned on Monday, Skov said. The other two were released.



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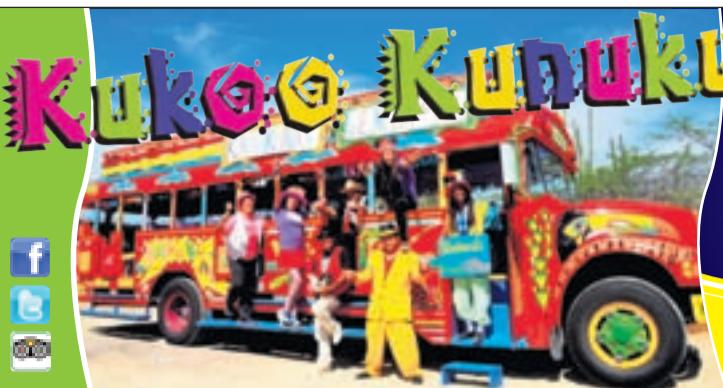
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**Aruba TODAY**

## Winter storm slams the South; bitter cold freezes Northeast

ADAM BEAM

Associated Press

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) —** Snow swirled sideways in Kentucky and the typically bustling state capital of Frankfort came to a frozen halt Monday as a storm walloped parts of the South, which unlike the Northeast, had been mostly spared this winter.

That all changed with a mix of snow, sleet and freezing rain across the region, making roads treacherous and knocking out power to thousands of people. Luckily, the storm arrived on a holiday, Presidents Day, when many schools and businesses were already closed and the morning commute was not as busy. Officials also made certain roads were prepared this year after Southern cit-



**Workers clear snow from a roof in Boston, Monday, Feb. 16, 2015. New England remained bitterly cold Monday after the region's fourth winter storm in a month blew through.**

**(AP Photo/Michael Dwyer)**

ies — most notably Atlanta — were caught off guard a year ago when a winter storm stranded thousands of people on interstates overnight. Raleigh suffered a similar fate last year. Still,

some weren't quite ready for the winter blast.

RL Doss said he had already used his 1987 GMC Suburban — which can haul up to three-quarters of a ton with ropes and chains

— to rescue several people and their cars on the hills surrounding Frankfort. Cars were fishtailing and sliding off the slick roads.

"I look at it this way. Everybody is trying to get out, to get their last bit of food and stuff, getting home from work and people leaving for work and stuff, and it happens," he said, shivering in a pair of tan overalls pulled over a hooded sweat shirt.

In the Northeast, which has been slammed by seemingly endless snow, the white stuff stopped falling but the temperatures were bitterly cold. New York City came close to breaking a 127-year-old record when the temperature in Central Park hit 3 degrees, just 2 degrees above the record set in 1888, said Jeffrey

Tongue, a National Weather Service meteorologist.

Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh said the latest snow storm left one person dead, apparently due to a heart attack while shoveling snow. A partial roof collapse at an eight-building apartment complex in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, left 500 to 700 people looking for warmth. In New Jersey, a 66-year-old woman who had been drinking at a benefit was found dead in the snow, just two doors from her home.

Firefighters working on a blaze in Philadelphia left behind a building coated in icicles. No one was hurt. West Virginia getting hit hard by the snowstorm when a train carrying crude oil derailed about 30 miles Charleston. At least one tanker went into the Kanawha River and nearby house caught fire. It wasn't clear if the winter storm had anything to do with the crash.

The storm was headed toward the Carolinas overnight, and then expected to march through the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast.

Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear urged people to stay home if possible. By Monday afternoon, 9 inches of snow had fallen in Louisville and other parts were buried under a foot of snow.

In central Kentucky, home to much of the state's signature thoroughbred industry, horses kept warm by galloping through the deep snow, pausing occasionally to shake it off from their thick winter coats. Ned Toffey, general manager of Spendthrift Farm in Lexington, said the horses enjoy running in the snow because it gives them a nice cushion as opposed to the harder, packed earth. □

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## North Korea threatens strong response to DC rights meeting

CARA ANNA

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

North Korea says it will respond "very strongly" to a conference in Washington on Tuesday about its widespread human rights abuses and says the United States ignored Pyongyang's offer to attend and defend itself. Puzzled conference organizers said the event was open to the public.

North Korea's U.N. Ambassador Jang Il Hun told reporters Monday he could not predict what a strong response might be.

Jang said the North Korea asked the U.S. government to "immediately scrap the so-called conference," which will be hosted by the nonprofit Center for Strategic & International Studies. Speakers include Robert King, the U.S. special envoy for North Korean human rights issues.

Victor Cha, Korea chair at CSIS, said he was not sure what Jang was referring to. "We issued no specific invi-

tations to anyone," he said. Nuclear-armed North Korea has been on the defensive ever since a groundbreaking U.N. commission of inquiry detailed vast rights abuses there. International pressure behind last year's report led to the U.N. Security Council placing the issue on its agenda of matters of international peace and security.

Jang said he sent a formal request to his counterpart in the State Department and that the counterpart responded that the event was not a government one. "That means our request was denied," Jang said. He called the conference "a purely government event" in nature.

North Korea and the United States do not have formal diplomatic relations, but Jang is tasked with communicating through the so-called "New York channel" that the country's U.N. mission uses to reach out to U.S. officials at times. Jang said his communication to the U.S. was only about the



North Korea's U.N. Ambassador Jang Il Hun, center, listens during a press conference, Monday, Feb. 16, 2015, at North Korea's Mission in New York. North Korea says it will respond "very strongly" to a conference in Washington on Tuesday about its widespread human rights abuses.

(AP Photo/Bebeto Matthews)

conference.

There was no immediate comment from the State Department. North Korea has repeatedly said the U.S. and its allies use the human rights issue as a pretext to overthrow it, and it

has started demanding that the U.S. should instead look into the CIA's "torture crimes."

The U.N. General Assembly in December approved a resolution that urged the council to refer North Ko-

rea's human rights situation to the International Criminal Court, and the head of the commission of inquiry earlier in the year wrote to North Korean leader Kim Jong Un warning that he could be held accountable for crimes against humanity.

"We are not guilty of any crime," Jang said Monday, smiling. But alarmed by anything targeting their young leader, North Korean diplomats briefly proposed last year that the U.N. high commissioner for human rights could visit their country if the U.N. resolution would drop the language about Kim and the ICC. Jang on Monday told reporters that the opportunity had passed. "Once it's gone, we have to start all over again," he said.

Another conference organizer, Greg Scarlatoiu with the Washington-based Committee for Human Rights in North Korea, said he had not heard from North Korea about attending. □



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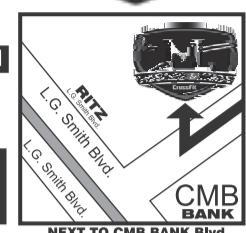
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## Man indicted on 3 counts of murder in NC Muslim deaths



Jordanian women light candles during a vigil for three people who were killed at a condominium in North Carolina, seen in the photo, outside the U.S. embassy in Amman, Jordan, Monday, Feb. 16, 2015. A grand jury in North Carolina has indicted a man on three counts of murder in the shootings of three young Muslims in what authorities have said was a dispute over parking spaces.

(AP Photo/Raad Adayleh)

DURHAM, North Carolina (AP) —

A grand jury indicted a man Monday on three counts of murder in the shootings of three young Muslims in what authorities have said was a dispute over parking spaces. Television stations WRAL and WTVD reported a grand jury in Durham County handed up the indictments Monday for 46-year-old Craig Hicks.

No one answered a phone call from The Associated Press at the courthouse, which closed midday for an impending ice and snowstorm. Deah Shaddy Barakat, 23; his wife, Yusor Mohammad Abu-Salha, 21; and her sister, Razan Mohammad Abu-Salha, 19, were all found dead in their Chapel Hill condominium last week. Hicks was their neighbor, and oth-

ers who lived nearby said he had frequent problems with where people parked in the complex near the University of North Carolina. Police in Chapel Hill have said they have not uncovered any evidence Hicks acted out of hatred for his neighbor's faith, but their investigation continues. The FBI is also investigating. Hicks is scheduled to be in court on the murder charges March 4. He remains in jail without bond. His court-appointed lawyer, Stephen Freedman, has said he could not comment on the case. Hicks described himself online as a "gun toting" atheist. Search warrants listed a dozen firearms taken from his home, including four handguns, two shotguns and six rifles — as well as a large amount of ammunition. □

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## Rabbi accused over divorce kidnap team heads to trial

**SEAN CARLIN**

**Associated Press**

LAKEWOOD, New Jersey (AP) —

When a Jewish woman wanted a divorce from an unwilling husband, federal prosecutors say Mendel Epstein was the rabbi who, for the right price, could gather a kidnap team to make it happen. Prosecutors allege the Orthodox rabbi's team would use brutal methods, including martial arts beatings, handcuffs and electric cattle prods, to torture the man into granting the divorce.

Prosecutors say he was recorded telling undercover FBI agents — posing as a brother and sister trying to force the sister's husband to grant the ritual Jewish divorce known as a "get" — that the operation would cost at least \$50,000.

The kidnap team brought surgical blades, a screwdriver and rope to a staged kidnapping in 2013, according to the indictment. Epstein, who was indicted last May along with his son and three other Orthodox rabbis, told the undercover agents he arranged similar kidnappings every year or year and a half, the indictment said.

Epstein's trial on attempted kidnapping charges starts Wednesday in federal court in New Jersey. Several co-defendants have pleaded guilty in the case; others will go on trial with Epstein.

The charges against Epstein reveal how far some Jewish women are forced to go to obtain a get, which Jewish law says the woman needs to remarry or even date another man. □



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## Water, air quality concerns heighten conflict with pig farms



In this January, 2015 photo, Barb Kalbach stands near a hog confinement facility, near Orient, Iowa. Kalbach has fought for more than a decade against the construction of huge hog operations, and has joined Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement, a nonprofit that's against such enterprises because members believe they are ruining Iowa's waterways.

(AP Photo/Charlie Neiburgall)

DAVID PITT

Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)

— From Washington state to North Carolina, federal lawsuits are challenging the livestock industry to change its ways. The arguments are based on studies that increasingly show the impact phosphorous, nitrate and bacteria from fertilizer and accumulated manure have on lakes and rivers as well as air pollution that may be harmful to respiratory health.

Large-scale livestock farmers insist they're using techniques to keep manure and fertilizer from draining into waterways, though Iowa farmer Bill Couser says, "We realize this is not going to happen overnight or in two years."

Those who rely on rivers and lakes for drinking water or live near such farms, especially in the top two hog-producing states of Iowa and North Carolina, are growing impatient.

Earlier this year, a federal judge in Washington state ruled that an industrial dairy farm's manure management practices posed

an "imminent and substantial endangerment" to the environment and to thousands relying on well water. And Des Moines' water utility has recently filed a notice of intent to sue farmers in three counties populated by 1.2 million pigs and a million turkeys, as the water it sources from two Iowa rivers must be run through a costly system to strip out nitrates.

About 68 percent of the nation's lakes, reservoirs and ponds and more than half of its rivers and streams are impaired, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, whose reports show the main culprit is agriculture.

The hog industry's national shift from small family farms to large-scale farms is dramatic, from more than 200,000 in the early 1990s to just over 21,600 in 2012.

A driving force behind some of the farms is Murphy-Brown LLC, which is part of China-based WH Group, the world's largest pork producer.

WH Group aims to feed China's appetite for meat with cheaper hogs from

the U.S., according to lawsuits.

Advocates of locally grown food and animal-rights and environmental activists are behind many of the suits, but in some cases, farmers are going after farmers. Barb Kalbach has fought against the construction of huge hog operations in Iowa, where pork is a \$7 billion industry and there are seven times more hogs than humans. "I have in the

back of my mind this idea that we have thousands of miles of clean water, which is a gift in this state and we just throw manure in it," the 61-year-old crop farmer said.

In North Carolina, 10 million hogs produce as much fecal waste in a day as 100 million people, and Duplin County is the nation's top county for hog production, according to the U.S. Agriculture Department.

Treated, liquefied manure and urine is pumped to large sprinkler systems and flung on fields for fertilizer. The resulting odor is a daily irritant for Richard Brown, whose home is nearly surrounded by fields that soak up hog effluent. Brown is among the roughly 500 people in who've joined the lawsuits against Murphy-Brown, alleging that the farms deprive them of enjoying their property. □



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## American Living:

### Success proves undoing of health insurance co-op

ABBY GOODNOUGH

© 2015 New York Times

RED OAK, Iowa - A few days after Christmas, Lisa Lovig's doctor called with jarring news. The health insurer covering her cancer treatments had run out of money, and its future was at best uncertain.

"I was terrified," said Lovig, 59, who has pancreatic cancer and relies on her insurance to cover frequent doctor appointments, tests and a litany of expensive drugs. "I didn't know what was going to happen to me."

Her insurer, CoOpportunity Health, was one of 23 non-profit cooperatives created under the Affordable Care Act to generate more competition and choice in insurance markets dominated by huge for-profit companies. Many of these newcomers to the industry, seeded with hundreds of millions of dollars in federal



**Mary Stuart, who had insurance for one month through CoOpportunity Health, a cooperative created under the Affordable Care Act to generate more competition, but collapsed, at her apartment in Omaha, Neb. The co-op's failure raised the question of whether one of the Affordable Care Act's biggest experiments in holding down insurance costs was in trouble beyond Iowa and Nebraska.**

*(Andrew Dickinson/The New York Times)*

loans, struggled to attract customers after the law's online insurance exchanges opened in 2013. But CoOpportunity had seemed to flourish, with more than

120,000 customers in Iowa and Nebraska - far more than the 15,000 it had anticipated - by the end of last year.

Its success apparently

helped doom it. CoOpportunity's many customers needed more medical care than expected, according to Nick Gerhart, Iowa's insurance commissioner, and it had priced its plans too low. After taking control of the co-op in late December, Gerhart decided last month that it could not be saved and asked a court to liquidate it. The co-op, he said at the time, faced more than \$150 million in liabilities. That left its customers scrambling for new coverage, and health care providers wondering if millions of dollars in outstanding claims would ever get paid.

More broadly, it raised the question of whether one of the Affordable Care Act's biggest experiments in holding down insurance costs was in trouble beyond Iowa and Nebraska. The co-ops, which the law says must be "consumer governed" by boards elected by their customers, have received nearly \$2 billion in federal loans, including \$145 million that went to CoOpportunity. They were initially supposed to receive \$6 billion over time, but Congress later slashed the amount and virtually no funds remain.

"Certainly I'm very disheartened right now," said Dr. David Carlyle, a family physician in Ames, Iowa, who served on a board that advised the Obama administration on how to set up the cooperatives. "If you can't have competition, you're going to go back to a world where a large percent of the

population is unable to get health insurance."

Even before CoOpportunity's failure, Republican critics of the health law had pointed to the co-ops as a risky use of tax dollars. Sen. Charles Grassley of Iowa last month began an investigation into the federal government's role in CoOpportunity's collapse. And on the floor of the House of Representatives recently, Rep. Adrian Smith of Nebraska called the co-op's collapse "one more example of Obamacare's failure."

CoOpportunity executives declined to be interviewed, referring questions to Gerhart.

Carlyle said a unique set of circumstances had weakened the co-op. In addition to selling private plans through the exchange, it had agreed to cover new Medicaid enrollees under Iowa's expansion of the program. The co-op pulled out of the Medicaid program in October, saying many of the 9,700 enrollees it covered had significant health needs and were too expensive.

Another problem was that Iowa and Nebraska, with the Obama administration's permission, allowed people to keep old insurance policies that did not meet Affordable Care Act standards through 2016. These people tended to be relatively healthy because before the law took effect, insurers could reject customers who were sick. That left the two insurers selling plans through Iowa's online exchange. □



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## Egypt strikes IS in Libya, pushes for international action



Pope Tawadros II, left, greets President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi at St. Mark's Cathedral in Cairo, Egypt, Monday, Feb. 16, 2015, a day after militants affiliated with the Islamic State group released video showing the beheading of Egyptian Coptic Christians held in Libya.

(AP Photo/Egyptian Presidency)

**H. HENDAWI**

**M. MICHAEL**

**Associated Press**

**CAIRO (AP)** — Egypt bombed Islamic State militants in neighboring Libya on Monday and called on the United States and Europe to join an international military intervention in the chaotic North African state after extremists beheaded a group of Egyptian Christians.

The airstrikes bring Egypt overtly into Libya's turmoil, a reflection of Cairo's increasing alarm. Egypt now faces threats on two fronts — a growing stronghold of radicals on its western border and a militant insurgency of Islamic State allies on its eastern flank in the Sinai Peninsula — as well as its own internal challenges.

Islamic State group weapons caches and training camps were targeted "to avenge the bloodshed and to seek retribution from the killers," a military statement said. "Let those far and near know that Egyptians have a shield to protect and safeguard the security of the country and a sword that cuts off terrorism."

The announcement on state radio represents Egypt's first public acknowledgement of military action in post-Moammar Gadhafi Libya, where there has been almost no government control. Libya is where the Islamic

State group has built up its strongest presence outside Syria and Iraq. Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi is lobbying Europe and the United States for a co-ordinated international response similar to the coalition air campaign in those countries.

"What is happening in Libya is a threat to international peace and security," said El-Sissi.

El-Sissi spoke with France's president and Italy's prime minister Monday about Libya, and sent his foreign minister, Sameh Shukri, to New York to consult at the United Nations ahead of a terrorism conference opening Wednesday in Washington.

The bombs were dropped by U.S.-made F-16 fighter jets that left Egyptian bases for targets in the eastern Libyan city of Darna, according to Egyptian and Libyan security officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the press.

The strikes came hours after the Islamic State group issued a grisly video of the beheadings of 21 Egyptian Christians, mainly young men from impoverished families who were kidnapped after travelling to Libya for work. The video shows them being marched onto what is purported to be a Libyan beach before masked mili-

tants with knives carve off their heads.

Thirteen of the 21 came

from Egypt's tiny Christian-majority village of el-Aour, where relatives wept in

church and shouted the names of the dead on Monday. □



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## Battle persists for Ukraine railway hub, despite peace deal

PETR JOSEK

Associated Press

**LUHANSKE, Ukraine (AP)** — Intense artillery exchanges between Ukrainian government forces and Russian-backed separatists persisted Monday around a strategic town in eastern Ukraine — fighting that threatens to dash a cease-fire deal brokered by European leaders last week.

Under the cease-fire agreement negotiated by the leaders of Ukraine, Russia, Germany and France, the warring sides are to begin withdrawing heavy weapons from the front line Tuesday. That plan already looks at risk, with the rebels saying they are not satisfied that conditions are in place for the process to go ahead.



An Ukrainian armored vehicle drives on the road between the towns of Debaltseve and Artemivsk, Ukraine, Monday, Feb. 16, 2015.

(AP Photo/Petr David Josek)

Associated Press reporters in Luhanske, a government-held town 15 kilometers (9 miles) northwest of the bitterly contested railway hub of Debaltseve, heard sustained shelling Monday. Some of the artillery appeared to be outgo-

ing, suggesting it was being fired by Ukrainian troops. Debaltseve, still in government hands, remains in contention despite the cease-fire. A loaded Grad rocket launcher was seen pointing in the direction of Debaltseve, but it was not

fired while AP journalists were present.

Speaking by telephone Monday night, French President Francois Hollande, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko expressed concerns about the continued fighting at Debaltseve and "also expressed the wish that the OSCE observers have a free access to continue their work on the ground," an official in Hollande's entourage said. The official spoke anonymously because they were not allowed to speak publicly. Observers from the Organization from Security and Cooperation in Europe, who are supposed to monitor the cease-fire, said Sunday that separatists denied them access to Debaltseve.

State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said in a

statement Monday afternoon that the U.S. was concerned about continued fighting in Debaltseve and statements by the separatists that they refuse to observe the cease-fire there. Despite the cease-fire that went into effect early Sunday morning, five Ukrainian troops were killed and 25 were wounded in the past 24 hours, Ukrainian military spokesman Andriy Lysenko said Monday.

Separatist military official Eduard Basurin said in a televised news conference Monday that the government overnight lobbed artillery at Horlivka, a town under rebel control. Ukraine, however, blamed that attack on the rebels. The government-appointed police chief of the Donetsk region, Vyacheslav Abroskin, said the separatists shelled the town in order to derail the truce. □



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## Eurozone issues Greece an ultimatum; Athens hopeful

PAN PYLAS

LORNE COOK

Associated Press

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — European creditors on Monday issued Greece an end-of-week deadline to request an extension to its bailout program or face having to meet its debt commitments on its own.

After the 19 finance ministers of the eurozone failed to find common ground on the Greek government's ambition to ease the burden of austerity, investors grew increasingly concerned that a compromise deal was not in the offing. The euro fell sharply as the talks broke down.

Yet despite the talk of deadlines, Greece's finance minister, Yanis Varoufakis, insisted a deal

between the two sides would be signed soon and that visible progress will be made within the next 48 hours.

"We are ready and willing to do whatever it takes to reach an agreement over the next two days," he said. "Europe will do the usual trick: It will pull a good agreement or an honorable agreement out of what seems to be an impasse."

Greece's current bailout program ends after Feb. 28, but it's still not able to stand on its own two feet if it's to meet its financial obligations over the coming few months. Without further support, Greece faces renewed risk of bankruptcy and a potential exit from the euro. □

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## India's Modi meets with newly elected Sri Lankan president

**NIRMALA GEORGE**

**Associated Press**

**NEW DELHI (AP)** — Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Sri Lanka's newly elected president, Maithripala Sirisena, held wide-ranging talks Monday as the South Asian neighbors sought to strengthen strategic ties, increase trade and resolve long-standing issues between their nations.

This was Sirisena's first foreign visit as president, and Indian officials said it indicated the easing of tensions that had crept into the relationship as China made forays into what New Delhi considers its strategic backyard.

Modi said the security and prosperity of the two countries was indivisible and they were committed to unlock the potential of their eco-

nomic cooperation, citing a nuclear agreement that was reached.

"The bilateral agreement on civil nuclear cooperation is yet another demonstration of our mutual trust," Modi told journalists soon after his talks with the Sri Lankan leader.

The nuclear agreement would allow India and Sri Lanka to share expertise on the management of radioactive waste, nuclear disaster mitigation and environmental protection, officials said. It would also allow the training of Sri Lankans in the use of radioisotopes, nuclear and radiation safety and nuclear security. Sri Lankan lawmakers in the past have raised concerns about the safety of India's Russian-built nuclear power plants in Tamil Nadu state, near Sri



Sri Lanka's President Maithripala Sirisena, left, and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi wave during a photo opportunity in New Delhi, India, Monday, Feb. 16, 2015.

(AP Photo/Saurabh Das)

Lanka.

The talks between Modi and Sirisena appeared to have put relations between the neighbors back on track, with both leaders agreeing to resolve many

of the irritants in their ties.

Over the past decade, India has watched with concern as China pumped billions of dollars into infrastructure projects in Sri Lanka. Last year, President

Xi Jinping became the first Chinese leader to visit Sri Lanka in 28 years as he courted Colombo's support for a maritime trade route. Sri Lanka also irked New Delhi by allowing two Chinese submarines to dock along its coastline. After the stunning defeat of his predecessor Mahinda Rajapaksha in general elections last month, Sirisena has tried to restore a balance between the two Asian giants. He plans a visit to China soon.

At the talks, Modi and Sirisena decided on a "constructive and humanitarian" approach to the problems faced by fishermen from both nations, who are often arrested for straying into the other nation's waters. □

## 5 plaintiffs drop pimping accusations against DSK

**P. SOTTO**

**A. CHARLTON**

**Associated Press**

**LILLE, France (AP)** — A high-profile pimping case against Dominique Strauss-Kahn nearly unraveled Monday, as five of six plaintiffs in a French prostitution trial dropped their accusations against him, saying there's no proof that the former International Monetary Fund chief violated the law.

Strauss-Kahn has testified to having orgies while he was managing the world financial crisis, to being "rough" with his sexual "conquests," and to needing sex with exceptional frequency. But none of that is illegal.

As the trial in northern France entered its third and final week Monday, it looked increasingly likely that the onetime presi-

dential contender will walk away with a clean criminal record. Strauss-Kahn is accused of aggravated pimping over a series of sex parties in France, Washington and Brussels, while he was leading the IMF, and was married. He's one of 14 people accused of involvement in a prostitution ring run out of the Hotel Carlton in Lille. Strauss-Kahn insists he didn't know the women involved were prostitutes. Two of his co-defendants say they recruited and paid the women themselves, and built a wall of silence to ensure that Strauss-Kahn wasn't aware.

Lawyers for four prostitutes and an association that had filed suit announced Monday that they are abandoning their pursuit of Strauss-Kahn, court officials said. □



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**Chile:**

## Opposition demands probe into Bachelet's son loan

**EVA VERGARA**  
Associated Press

**SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)** — Chilean opposition lawmakers on Monday demanded an investigation into whether President Michelle Bachelet's son got privileged access to a bank loan.

Right-wing lawmakers say Sebastian Dávalos and his wife benefited from privileged treatment in receiving a \$10 million loan to buy land later sold for about \$15 million. The loan was fast-tracked for approval

by the Banco de Chile after the couple met with its vice president, Andrónico Luksic, one of Chile's wealthiest men. The loan was approved a day after Bachelet was elected president in December 2013. "This is going to test Chilean institutions because we're talking about the president's son," said Jose Manuel Edwards of the center-right Renovacion Nacional party. Dávalos has said the deal was not illegal, but he resigned as head of Bache-

let's charitable foundation Friday, and he acknowledged the controversy has "damaged the president and the government." In an interview published Sunday by *El Mercurio* newspaper, Dávalos said he doesn't believe he was imprudent when meeting with the bank's vice president. He also said his mother had been unaware of the meeting and the loan, finding out about them last week during their family vacation in southern Chile. Bachelet is still on vacation



**Chile's presidential candidate Michelle Bachelet waves to supporters as her son Sebastian Dávalos stands behind in Santiago, Chile. Chilean opposition lawmakers are asking for a full investigation to determine whether Bachelet's son got privileged access to a bank loan.**

(AP Photo/Jorge Saenz)

and has not yet commented. But some members of her "New Majority" coalition, which includes Communists, street activists and former student leaders, have acknowledged the family got privileged access, while insisting the loan was legitimate.

Having Dávalos meet the vice president of the bank, "was a tremendous political mistake," because the government's core values are the fight against inequality and abuse of power, said Osvaldo Andrade, head of Chile's Communist Party.

Corruption levels in Chile are among South America's lowest, according to Transparency International. But trust in politicians has eroded by a probe of Penta Group, a company accused of illegally financing right-wing candidates. Since Chile's return to democracy in 1990, the popularity of every president has dropped at the beginning of the second year of its mandate, Mella said. Bachelet's popularity rating currently ranges from 38-40 percent, but Mella predicted it will continue to plunge with the scandal. □



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## Police: Jamaica women nabbed smuggling cocaine from Curacao

**KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)**

— Jamaican police say two alleged drug mules have been arrested after disembarking flights from the Dutch Caribbean island of Curacao.

In a Monday statement, the Jamaica Constabulary Force identified the two suspects as Jamaican women who worked as market vendors. They recently returned to Jamaica on separate flights from Curacao and were detained

by authorities at Kingston's international airport.

Police allege one of the women expelled 55 pellets containing nearly 2 pounds (nearly a kilogram) of cocaine. The other allegedly had just over a pound of cocaine (about half a kilogram) strapped to her body.

Early last year, Jamaican police said they were foiling a rising number of attempts to smuggle drugs to and from Curacao. □

# LOCAL Aruba TODAY

## Exciting and Colorful Parades Close Aruba's Carnaval 61!



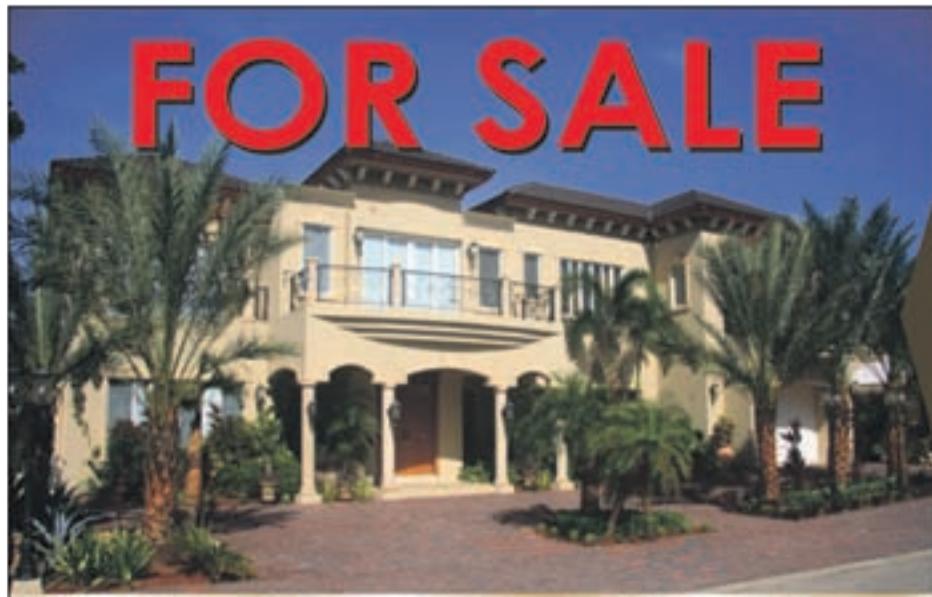
**ORANJESTAD/SAN NICOLAS** –This weekend witnessed the grand finale of Aruba's world famous Carnaval, officially saying 'goodbye' to Carnaval 61. Here on the island fanatics are already looking forward to 'Carnaval 62 on Aruba, which will kick off officially in November this year, and following tradition, will close the Sunday prior to Ash Wednesday in

2016! Carnaval 61 closed last night with the official business of the 'Burning of the Momo,' which is the symbolic closing of the annual festivities, where bad spirits are chased away, clearing the way for a healthy and prosperous new season. Kicking off this exciting weekend, revelers enjoyed the Grand Parade of San Nicolas, which took place



all day Saturday in downtown San Nicolas. And then before partygoers could catch their breath, the last parade of the season, Oranjestad's Grand Parade, roared through downtown Oranjestad Sunday from 1pm till the

sun set into the Caribbean Sea! As we here on the island have already begun preparing for Aruba's Carnaval 62, we hope you have already begun making your travel arrangements to return to join in the fun next year! □



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## **ALHYDRAN, a highly recommended medical moisture-regulating gel-cream in burn clinics worldwide, now locally available.**

Tourists and locals love Aruba Aloe's skin care and sun care products, but what most people don't know is that Aruba Aloe also produces a highly concentrated moisture-regulating gel-cream called *Alhydran*, which is used for the aftercare treatment of burn scars, surgical wounds, redness, itching, rashes after laser therapy or radiotherapy, and other scar tissue. This very effective cream has become one of the new standards in scar treatment in university hospitals and burn clinics worldwide. Sold in over 22 countries, this unique Aruban export product is now locally available in all Aruba Aloe stores and on [www.arubaaloe.com](http://www.arubaaloe.com).

### **A success story**

Wim Arns, a middle-aged Dutch man, got severely burned on his hands and face when cigar ashes drifted down into a bucket of paraffin oil he was holding, causing a spontaneous explosion. Wim: "After being treated in the Burn Centre in Rotterdam, the doctors referred me to a skin therapist in my hometown to continue the aftercare of the burn scars. My skin felt really tight and itchy, and I wanted a cream to help with this. That's when the therapist recommended *Alhydran*. Already within an hour of applying the cream, I felt my skin had more space to breathe and the itching stopped. My face has healed completely, the skin has total flexibility again, and the same goes for my hands. Therapy certainly contributed to this, but I attribute the flexibility of the skin and eradication of the itching to the use of *Alhydran*."

### **Alhydran through the eyes of a professional**

Rina Rijkenberg is a certified skin therapist in Oosterbeek, the Netherlands. As a specialist, she has different skin products to choose from, but *Alhydran* is her #1 solution. Rina: "A lot of complaints are that the skin feels dry, itchy, red, sensitive, and painful, which are symptoms frequently associated with burn victims, lymph edema patients, and people who have undergone radiation therapy or have general scar tissue, acne, or excessive hair. All this can be caused by a deregulation in the moisture levels of the skin. The secret to *Alhydran* is that it regulates the moisture levels of the skin continuously in an unprecedented way. A very high dosage of pure Aloe Vera gel delivers the hydration, and pure Vitamin C, Vitamin E, and Jojoba oil prolong the activity. Patients can actually see and feel their skin healing."

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Tamarijn Aruba Hotel)
- **Aruba Aloe Occidental**  
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brainstorm sessions and tailor-made advice. Therefore, this Saturday 21st of February from 10AM – 1PM we are inviting you to an inspirational coffee morning with our interior designers. Walk into our store for a cup of freshly brewed coffee and walk out with fresh new design ideas. Sit down with our highly trained interior designers for any burning questions related to color-use, furniture placement and accessories.

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# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY



Venus Williams of the U. S. returns the ball to Belinda Bencic of Switzerland during the second day of Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Monday, Feb. 16, 2015.

Associated Press

**Venus Williams  
beats player  
half her age at  
Dubai tournament**

SANDRA HARWITT  
Associated Press

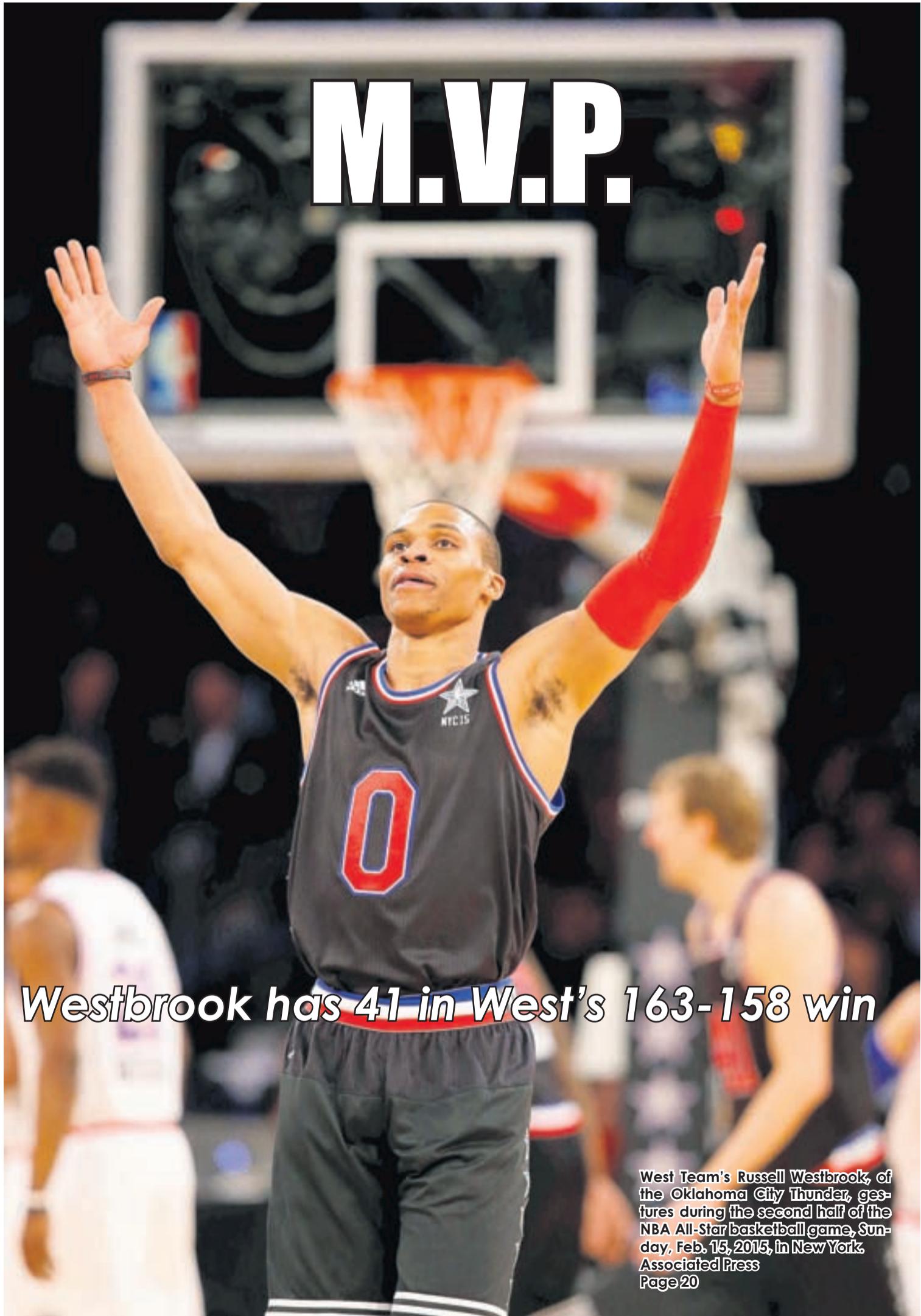
**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)** — Defending champion Venus Williams beat an opponent half her age on Monday, winning 6-1, 6-2 against 17-year-old Belinda Bencic of Switzerland in the first round of the Dubai Tennis Championships.

Despite the age difference, the 34-year-old Williams looked physically fitter than her opponent and dominated throughout to earn her 16th straight win in Dubai. She won the tournament in 2009, 2010 and 2014, skipping the event the other three years.

"At 34, I mean, I'm hitting a little bit harder than most people and playing some offense on the run and hitting the ball just as hard," Williams said. "When I was 17, I didn't think about what the age was of someone across the net. All you think of is I want to beat them."

Continued on page 22

# M.V.P.



## Sammy warns WIldies of early World Cup exit

**NELSON, New Zealand (AP)**

— Few teams loom larger in the history of the Cricket World Cup than the West Indies — winners of the first two tournaments — but the current team, under the untested captaincy of young Jason Holder, is struggling to uphold that legacy.

The West Indies were beaten by four wickets in their opening Pool B match on Monday by minnows Ireland and need a major form improvement when they play Pakistan in Christchurch on Saturday to prevent their campaign dissolving into chaos.

Monday's loss to a non test-playing nation is only likely to increase speculation about internal discord within the West Indies squad after contentious selections and the appointment of the 23-year-old Holder as captain.

The young fast bowler had played only 26 one-day internationals before Mon-



**West Indies' Darren Sammy, bottom, slides into his crease as Ireland's William Porterfield leaps to field during their Cricket World Cup pool B match at Nelson, New Zealand, Monday, Feb. 16, 2015.**

Associated Press

day's clash with Ireland and faces the difficult task of securing the respect and co-operation of his senior teammates, notably Darren Sammy, whose captaincy he has usurped.

The West Indies players, including Sammy who scored 89 against Ireland, have repeatedly stated that they are a united team and all questions of selection and

leadership are in the past. But they looked disorganized and unmotivated at times on Monday and Sammy said they face an early exit from the World Cup unless they find form.

"If we continue to play like that, we won't be here for long, for sure," Sammy said. "So we still believe that the World Cup isn't just one game."

"You win four out of five matches or sometimes even four out of six and then you can still get into the quarters. So, yeah, we're not going to keep our heads down, but we still believe we could make it into the top four in this group."

Sammy hinted at problems of motivation and focus in the loss to Ireland. While it seems unlikely any team would underestimate the Irish, who have beaten Pakistan and England at previous World Cups, Sammy suggested the West Indies lacked intensity on Monday. "We've not been able to put a full game of cricket together," he said. "I think the batting display or partnership (between Sammy and Lendl Simmons who made 154 for the sixth wicket) should have been motivation enough for the bowlers to go out there and want to run into the Irish.

"But, look, we were lacka-

daisical in the field and we just fought that here. We scored 300 and we're supposed to win. But you could see that Ireland is known to win those big matches and they've caused a few upsets in ICC events. Yeah, today we took them for granted as we fielded. So I can't really pinpoint on what exactly. We just were not putting in a good game of cricket."

Sammy said the West Indies had to rally together to revive their World Cup campaign.

"When things are not going your way it's always difficult to motivate yourself," he said. "But as a group, you know, you've got to keep believing and we need to find some inspiration somewhere and we need to find it quickly."

"I will always try to be positive in my approach, help our young captain, Jason, and hopefully the rest of the team could follow." □

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## Not one for change, Snedeker sees a payoff



Brandt Snedeker holds his trophy and poses with Clint Eastwood on the 18th green of the Pebble Beach Golf Links after winning the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am golf tournament Sunday, Feb. 15, 2015, in Pebble Beach, Calif. Snedeker won the tournament after shooting a 5-under-par 67 to finish at total 22-under-par.

**DOUG FERGUSON**  
**AP Golf Writer**

**PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP)**

— Brandt Snedeker finds something that works and sticks with it.

He picked up a putter in 2005 on the Nationwide Tour and it has been with him since, except for a short separation last summer when the putts stopped falling. Snedeker, like most golfers, felt as if he needed to teach it a lesson and try something new. Actually, he wanted to teach "her"

a lesson. And how did he choose the gender?

"She's done pretty well over the last nine years, so I feel like it's a marriage at this point," he said.

His driver is made by a company that seems to promote something new every other month, and yet Snedeker is still using one made in 2010. In this era of technology, that practically makes it a relic. And those irons? He's been using those since before Jordan Spieth came out on

tour. The equipment editor for Golf Digest figured out the resale value for the putter and the driver combined would be \$34.

"That wouldn't shock me," Snedeker said. "If you see any more, I'm willing to buy them for that."

That shouldn't be a problem for Snedeker, who used them all quite handily and set the tournament scoring record for the second time in three years when he won the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am on Sun-

day. The victory was worth just over \$1.2 million.

It was valuable in so many other ways.

For starters, it made him relevant again, a term Snedeker used when he realized at the start of the year he was no longer eligible for the events that attract the world's best players. The seventh career victory got him into the Masters and the PGA Championship, and by moving up to a No. 31 world ranking, he can count on the four World Golf Championships, along with starting next year in Kapalua.

More than that, however, it justified a decision last summer to get away from something that had been working well. He changed coaches.

Snedeker had been with Todd Anderson since the end of 2005 — about as long as he's had that putter — and he won six PGA Tour events and over \$20 million in earnings, which doesn't include the \$10 million bonus from his FedEx Cup title in 2012 right before he played in his first Ryder Cup. Golf can get stale, however, and it was a big move for Snedeker to seek out Butch Harmon a week before the U.S. Open.

"A class act," Harmon said Sunday night. "It's fun working with him. He has a quick wit, which fits with me. And he works hard. He was really good at one time and he got lost. I helped him find his way. Sometimes it's more than just the X's and O's of the swing."

Results were far from immediate. Snedeker had his worst year on tour and for the first time didn't make it beyond the second FedEx Cup playoff event. Tom Watson wanted him on the Ryder Cup team for his putting, but Snedeker played his way out of the conversation.

But he kept working away, never losing hope he would turn it around. The payoff was a week at Pebble Beach that was close to perfect, and not just the weather. Snedeker made one bogey in 72 holes. When he wasn't at his best, he figured out how to manage.

"He did a great job of helping me understand how I swing the golf club, what I need to do to be successful," Snedeker said. "The great thing about Butch is he's not technical at all. He instills confidence in you when you don't even realize he's doing it. We might have a three-hour practice session and he might say one thing about my swing and 15 things about the mental side of it, what you should be thinking in certain situations."

Harmon treated Snedeker like any other of his clients. There were a few technical issues — his swing was getting out of position and too long at the top — but the goal was for Snedeker to understand the swing and how to fix it. The other message from Harmon was to develop a safe shot when the swing doesn't feel right. For Snedeker, that was teeing the ball lower and getting on top of the ball sooner, a shot that helped him on the back nine when he seized control and wanted to keep it. Harmon loves the old-school work ethic of Snedeker. He also loves the refreshing pace with which he plays the game. Snedeker talks fast and walks even faster. He gives his hips a quick swivel as he sets up over the ball — maybe that activates his glutes — and pulls the trigger. Standing over putts, he keeps his eye on the hole as he takes five or six short, repetitive practice strokes, and then he steps over the ball and gives it a pop. □

Associated Press

## Westbrook has 41, West edges East in NBA All-Star Game

**BRIAN MAHONEY**

**AP Basketball Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Russell Westbrook scored 41 points, one short of the NBA All-Star Game record, as the Western Conference beat the East 163-158 on Sunday.

The Oklahoma City speedster had a record 27 points by halftime and closed out the scoring with two free throws, falling one point behind Wilt Chamberlain's 42 points in the 1962 game. He was voted the game's MVP.

The NBA's return to New York showed off everything about the Big Apple, and by the time Frank Sinatra's "New York, New York" played after the game, it was clear Westbrook was king of the hill.

"It's amazing. It's a blessing to be here in New York City," Westbrook said during the MVP ceremony.

James Harden added 29 points, eight rebounds and eight assists for the West, which built a 20-point lead in the first half and then pulled away after it was tied at 148 with a little more than 4 minutes remaining. LeBron James finished with 30 points, but couldn't lead the East to the victory in his favorite NBA arena.

Harden's 3-pointer snapped the final tie with



West Team's Russell Westbrook, of the Oklahoma City Thunder, holds the MVP trophy after the NBA All-Star basketball game, Sunday, Feb. 15, 2015, in New York. The West Team won 163-158.

Associated Press

4:02 to play and Chris Paul followed with consecutive baskets. Westbrook's fifth 3-pointer put it away at 158-149 with 2:22 to go.

Atlanta's Kyle Korver made seven 3-pointers and scored 21 points for the East, while Washington's John Wall had 19.

But right from the start, the players were sharing the stage.

Christina Aguilera appeared from behind a gi-

ant big apple, and belted out some New York-inspired numbers to start the show, joined on stage by the Rockettes.

Entertainment's elite were all over the arena, with players hobnobbing with rapper Jay-Z and boxing champ Floyd Mayweather near their courtside seats at halftime. But the biggest roar came for a star from another sport — politics.

President Bill Clinton, who

had a big night of his own at Madison Square Garden when he was nominated here during the 1992 Democratic National Convention, got a pair of loud ovations when he was shown during Queen Latifah's performance of the national anthem.

Big brother Pau Gasol won the jump ball against Marc to begin the first All-Star game featuring two sibling starters, but for a while it

looked as if that would be the East's only win of the night.

The West shot out to a 20-point lead behind a record 27 first-half points from Westbrook, but the East chipped away and cut it to 83-82 before pop star Ariana Grande's halftime performance.

It was 122-all after three and close throughout the fourth.

It was New York's first time hosting the weekend since 1998 and a rare journey to the north for the NBA, which has preferred to stage the festivities in the warmth of the South and West.

Even some of the NBA's most fashionable had to choose bundling up over dressing up, a concession to the frigid temperatures they faced during the weekend.

But next year might be worse, when the game heads north of the border to Toronto.

Carmelo Anthony struggled to 14 points on 6-of-20 shooting for the East in what may have been his final game of the season. The Knicks star has been battling a sore knee for much of the season and may opt for surgery with the team owning the NBA's worst record. □

## Nishikori 3-peats as Memphis champ, beats Anderson 6-4, 6-4

**TERESA M. WALKER**

**AP Sports Writer**

**MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)** — All the big names from Bjorn Borg, Jimmy Connors and John McEnroe to Pete Sampras, Michael Chang and Andy Roddick are on the list of past champions. Now Kei Nishikori of Japan stands alone as Memphis' first three-peat champ.

Nishikori became the first man to win three straight Memphis Open titles, beating South African Kevin Anderson 6-4, 6-4 in the final Sunday.

"It's (an) amazing feeling because nobody ever done this before at this tournament, so it's something special," Nishikori said. "But, you know, I think I have to do better to keep

this, and hopefully I can keep going."

Nishikori improved to 13-1 at the indoor tournament, where Connors, Tommy Haas and Todd Martin failed to string together three straight titles. Now only Connors has more championships at The Racquet Club than Nishikori, who is tied with Haas and Roddick at three apiece.

"I think I am going to move here soon," Nishikori said before accepting his guitar trophy. The fifth-ranked Nishikori won his eighth career ATP title and first since Tokyo last year. He needed only 76 minutes to beat the second-seeded Anderson despite playing with a sore right wrist and a blister on his left pinkie toe. He got



Kei Nishikori, of Japan, looks up at confetti as he is presented with a guitar trophy after defeating Kevin Anderson, of South Africa, in the championship match of the Memphis Open tennis tournament Sunday, Feb. 15, 2015, in Memphis, Tenn.

Associated Press

his left thumb taped during the first set before taking the \$106,565 winner's check.

Mariusz Fyrstenberg of Poland and Santiago Gonzalez of Mexico won the doubles title, beating Artem Sitak of New Zealand and American Donald Young 5-7, 7-6 (1), 10-8.

Nishikori, the U.S. Open runner-up, now is 10-2 this year.

"I think it's a great start for the year and like last year, so really happy to (do) this three times in a row," Nishikori said. Haas won the titles in 2006 and '07 but lost in the second round in 2008, while Martin went back-to-back in 1994-95 only to drop the 1996 final to Pete Sampras. □

## **Stoudemire's time in New York done after buyout from Knicks**



New York Knicks' Amare Stoudemire, left, and Tim Hardaway Jr., right, watch their team play during the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Brooklyn Nets on Friday, Feb. 6, 2015, in New York. The Nets won 92-88.

**BRIAN MAHONEY**  
AP Basketball Writer

**NEW YORK (AP) —** Amare Stoudemire started the New York Knicks moving forward, before his injuries hastened their return to the bottom.

Now he wants to look elsewhere for a chance at a championship.

The veteran forward was waived Monday after requesting the Knicks buy out the remainder of his contract that was set to expire after this season. He will be free to sign with another team once he clears waivers.

"His time here should be marked by recognizing his effort. It was 100 percent," Phil Jackson, the Knicks' president of basketball operations, said in a statement. "As we move forward in structuring this team, we will look for players that exhibit his desire to win."

Stoudemire averaged 17.3 points and 6.7 rebounds in

255 games over five seasons with the Knicks, making the playoffs three times. He was a starter in the 2011 All-Star Game, the Knicks' first in 14 years.

"I will be forever grateful for the opportunity to contribute positively on the court and in the community. Although I leave the Knicks with a heavy heart, I wish the organization the best of luck. Once a Knick always a Knick," Stoudemire said. Carmelo Anthony, who wanted to play for the Knicks in part because Stoudemire had signed there in 2010, learned the news Sunday after playing in the All-Star Game.

"Amare brought some-

thing back to New York that New York was kind of missing and needing for a long time," Anthony said. "When he came, he brought back some of the excitement here for the game of basketball in New York."

There was hope when he came back. People started believing in the New York Knicks once again. He was the main reason for that belief and for that hope when he first got here in New York "

Stoudemire was an All-Star in Phoenix before signing a five-year contract worth about \$100 million in 2010. He helped the Knicks end a seven-year playoff drought

his first season, but he missed significant time over the last few years because of assorted injuries. The Knicks had to monitor his minutes since his two knee operations during the 2012-13 season.

He can still score when able to play, averaging 12 points in 24 minutes this season. So he may draw interest from contending teams before the regular-season schedule resumes.

Thursday.  
"To see him leave, to see the situation where it's at right now, I know what he wants and you have to respect that," Anthony said.  
"As an athlete, as a competitor, you only want the best for your friends, your close ones. He wants to play for a championship is what I'm hearing. He wants to play for a contender. I don't think nobody should hold that away from him. □

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FRI 5:00 | 7:45 | 10:20  
SAT 2:15 | 5:00 | 7:45 | 10:20  
SAT & HOL 2:15 | 5:00 | 7:45

**GINNIFER GOODWIN | MAE WHITMAN**

**Disney**  
**The Legend of the Neverbeast**

MON-THURS 4:50 | 6:40 | 8:30 (PG)  
FRI 4:50 | 6:40 | 8:30 | 10:20  
SAT 3:00 | 4:50 | 6:40 | 8:30 | 10:20  
SUN & HOL 3:00 | 4:50 | 6:40 | 8:30

**CHRIS EVANS | MICHELLE MONAGHAN**

**PLAYING IT COOL**

MON-THURS 5:00 | 9:25  
FRI 5:00 | 9:25 | 11:30  
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SUN & HOL 5:00 | 9:25

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3D VERSION  
MON-FRI 4:20 | 7:05  
SAT 2:55 | 5:00 | 7:05  
SUN & HOL 2:55 | 5:00 | 7:05

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MON-THURS 3:50 | 6:35 | 9:30 (PG-13)  
FRI 3:50 | 6:35 | 9:20 | 10:45  
SAT 3:50 | 6:35 | 9:20 | 10:45  
SUN & HOL 3:50 | 6:35 | 9:20

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**BEN BARNES | JULIANNE MOORE**

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## NHL Capsules

## Sharp lifts Blackhawks to 2-1 SO win over Pens

The Associated press

CHICAGO (AP) — Patrick Sharp scored the decisive goal in the shootout as the Chicago Blackhawks beat the Pittsburgh Penguins 2-1 on Sunday.

Jonathan Toews and Patrick Kane also scored in the tiebreaker as the Blackhawks earned their second straight win. They have captured six of a possible eight points through the first half of a season-high eight-game homestand.

Nick Spaling scored in the third period for Pittsburgh, which had won four of five. Marc-Andre Fleury made 31 saves through overtime, but was unable to stop any of Chicago's shootout attempts.

Thanks to David Perron and Sidney Crosby, the Penguins still had a chance for a big road win before Sharp skated in and beat Fleury into the right side for the victory. Fleury slammed his stick into the post in disgust after the final play. CAPITALS 5, DUCKS 3 ANAHEIM, California (AP) — Alex Ovechkin scored twice in the first period to take over the NHL lead in goals and send Washington to a victory



Chicago Blackhawks' Patrick Sharp, right, scores the winning goal in a shootout against Pittsburgh Penguins goalie Marc-Andre Fleury during an NHL hockey game in Chicago, Sunday, Feb. 15, 2015. Chicago won 2-1.

Associated Press

over Anaheim.

Ovechkin also set up two goals by Andre Burakovsky. Marcus Johansson got the go-ahead goal at 3:27 of the second period, and Justin Peters made 30 saves in his ninth start of the season.

Braden Holtby, who leads all NHL goalies in games and minutes played, got the night off following Saturday night's 3-1 loss to

the Stanley Cup champion Los Angeles Kings.

Andrew Cogliano had two goals and Corey Perry netted his team-high 24th for the two-time defending Pacific Division champion Ducks, who lost left wing Matt Beleskey and defenseman Sami Vatanen in the first period due to undisclosed injuries.

LIGHTNING 5, SHARKS 2

SAN JOSE, California (AP)

— Steven Stamkos scored his 30th goal of the season in Tampa Bay's win over San Jose.

Alex Killorn, Ondrej Palat, Cedric Paquette and Ryan Callahan also scored for the Lightning.

Logan Couture and Brent Burns scored for the Sharks, who lost their fifth straight at home and fourth in five games overall.

Ben Bishop stopped 33

## Dubai tournaments

Continued from page 17

Bencic broke for a 2-0 lead in the second set but Williams quickly rebounded to wrap up the win in 69 minutes.

A sleep-deprived Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia needed 2 hours, 39 minutes to overcome Mona Barthel of Germany 7-6 (5), 3-6, 6-3. Hantuchova was coming off her Thailand Open victory in Pattaya City on Sunday.

"This is where the love for the sport comes in," Hantuchova said. "Yes, I'm tired, but it's the best feeling in the world."

Playing on her fourth continent in the last four weeks, Karolina Pliskova of the

Czech Republic also advanced with a 6-2, 6-4 win over Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova of Russia.

The 17th-seeded Pliskova reached the third round at the Australian Open, then went to Canada to play for the Czech Republic in the Fed Cup. After that, she reached the semifinals at a tournament in Belgium and then traveled to Dubai.

"In the second set I had a break, and then I was feeling I'm sleeping a little bit," Pliskova said. "But then I (came) back and I'm happy that I didn't go (to) the third set."

Also, 11th-seeded Lucie



Belinda Bencic of Switzerland returns the ball to Venus Williams of the U. S. during the second day of Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Monday, Feb. 16, 2015.

Associated Press

Safarova of the Czech Republic beat Monica Puig of Puerto Rico 6-1, 6-4 and 16th-seeded Peng Shuai of China defeated lucky loser Elena Vesnina of Russia 7-5, 6-1.

CoCo Vandeweghe was trailing Elina Svitolina of Ukraine 3-1 when the American retired from the match with a shoulder injury. □

shots as Tampa Bay won in San Jose for the first time in 12 years.

Antti Niemi made 28 saves. BLUES 2, PANTHERS 1, SO SUNRISE, Florida (AP) — Jori Lehtera scored the winning goal in the fifth round of a shootout to lift St. Louis over Florida.

Vladimir Tarasenko also scored for St. Louis in the shootout, and Brad Boyes converted for Florida. Lehtera beat Roberto Luongo with a shot between the pads.

Jaden Schwartz scored in regulation for the Blues, who are 15-3 in their last 18 games. Brian Elliott stopped 40 shots, including 20 in the third period and two in overtime.

The Blues earned their third consecutive win and sixth in a row over the Panthers. Florida hasn't defeated St. Louis since a 4-0 victory on Oct. 31, 2009.

Nick Bjugstad scored for the Panthers, and Luongo made 32 saves.

FLYERS 2, SABRES 1 BUFFALO, New York (AP) — Michael Raffl and Matt Read scored for Philadelphia against Buffalo. Ray Emery made 21 saves as the Flyers ended their two-game skid in the finale of a four-game road trip. Raffl scored the winner on a wraparound with 7:15 left in the third period after Sabres goalie Michal Neuvirth lost track of the puck behind the net. The Sabres, playing for the first time since trading for defenseman Zach Bogosian and forward Evander Kane on Wednesday, got a goal from defenseman Nikita Zadorov. Bogosian started on the blue line in place of Josh Gorges, who was rested. Neuvirth made 28 saves in his 20th start of the season, but first since the Sabres traded goalie Jhonas Enroth. In other NHL games it was Chicago 2, Pittsburgh 1, SO; St. Louis 2, Florida 1, SO; Philadelphia 2, Buffalo 1; Washington 5, Anaheim 3 and Tampa Bay 5, San Jose 2. □

## To combat fraud, Visa wants to track your smartphone

**KEN SWEET**

**AP Business Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Those days of calling your bank to let them know that, yes, you really are in Thailand, and yes, you really did use your credit card to buy \$200 in sarongs, may be coming to an end.

The payment processing company Visa will roll out a new feature this spring that will allow its cardholders to inform their banks where they are automatically, using the location function found in nearly every smartphone.

Having your bank and Visa know where you are at all times may sound a little like "Big Brother." But privacy experts are actually applauding the feature, saying that, if used correctly, it could protect cardholders and cut down on credit card fraud.

Credit and debit card fraud costs consumers and banks billions of dollars each year, and that figure has been growing as data breaches have become more common. The banking industry had \$1.57 billion in debit card fraud in 2013 and \$4 billion in credit card fraud in 2012, the latest years for which data are available, according to the Federal Reserve.

Facing these high costs,

banks and the payment processors have been stepping up their efforts to cut down on fraud, and Visa's announcement is just one small piece of this drive. JPMorgan Chase's CEO Jamie Dimon has said repeatedly that his bank spends \$250 million overall on cybersecurity every year, and plans to double that spending.

Here's how it works: starting in April, banks will update their smartphone apps to include Visa's new location-tracking software. If the consumer opts in, the Visa software will, over a period of time, establish a customer's home territory of roughly a 50-mile radius. If the person uses his or her Visa card at stores in that area, those transactions will be considered low risk for fraud.

When that person travels outside their home area, the phone will notify Visa that they've entered a new city or country, using either the phone's cellular data plan or the next time the phone connects to a Wi-Fi network. When that person uses their Visa card for a transaction in that location, Visa will already know he or she is there and will be less likely to flag the card for a fraud alert.

"We will be able to com-



In this Feb. 25, 2008 file photo, a cardholder poses with his Visa credit card, in Springfield, Ill.

Associated Press

pare the merchant's location to the most recent cellphone location to show it's a less risky transaction," Visa executive Mark Nelsen said. The feature is optional and can be deactivated at any time. Visa also says none of the location tracking will be used for marketing purposes. One type of fraud Visa's feature will directly address is counterfeit credit cards. Criminals can take stolen credit card information and code it onto a new card using equipment that

can be readily purchased online. Counterfeit cards look like any other credit card, but have someone else's information on the magnetic stripe.

Nelsen said Visa hopes the new security feature will prevent "a good portion" of fraud perpetrated with counterfeit cards, because those cards are often used in a location other than where the actual card owner lives.

Visa's new anti-fraud measure, which the company announced on Thursday,

won't address every potential fraud situation. If a card user has both their phone and credit cards stolen, for example, Visa wouldn't necessarily know that the card was at risk of fraudulent use until the cardholder contacted the company.

The current version of Visa's anti-fraud software doesn't address the possibility of stolen credit card data being used to make online purchases, but a future version will, Nelsen said.

Visa is just one of dozens of financial companies trying to figure out the best way to use new technologies to combat fraud. MasterCard said Friday it is rolling out a pilot program later this year that will integrate biometric data, such as face, voice or fingerprints, into its payment system to help

authenticate transactions. Many travelers have had the experience of having their credit cards declined when using them for the first time in a foreign city or country because the bank assumed the charge was fraudulent. The only solution in those situations was for the cardholders to call the banks or credit card issuer every time they travel to let them know where they will be.

The process is cumbersome and time-consuming for cardholders and also for banks, which incur large expenses to staff call centers to deal with these types of calls from customers. Some banks use systems like text message alerts, but that usually requires customers to reply or call a number before the transaction will go through. □

"The goal is to let more of those good transactions go through so we can focus on the real fraud," Nelsen said.

Privacy experts were generally warm to the idea, as long as banks are clear on how a customer's smartphone location will be used.

"When a trusted party — and I think people think of their bank as a trusted party — is looking out for you using what technology they have, I think people will welcome that. □

## Google, Mattel try to bring View-Master into 21st century

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Mattel and Google are trying to bring the 75-year-old View-Master into the 21st century — with some help from smartphones and virtual reality technology.

The original View-Masters gave people a chance to click through colorful photos by inserting reels into the viewing devices.

Targeted at families, the updated View-Master has users insert a smartphone into a headset. A smartphone app will enable the gadget to immerse kids in a slew of virtual worlds, from far-off cities to outer space. The new View-Masters will be priced at



This undated photo provided by Mattel shows an updated View-Master. Mattel and Google are trying to bring the 75-year-old View-Master into the 21st century, updating the iconic stereoscopic photo viewer with smartphone compatibility and virtual reality technology.

Associated Press

about \$30. Mattel Inc. and Google Inc. unveiled the virtual reality viewer Friday at Mattel's New York City

office. The device launches in the fall, but the companies had no finished product to show off. □

## JetBlue's CEO battles to appease passengers and Wall Street

SCOTT MAYEROWITZ

AP Airlines Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Robin Hayes, the new CEO of JetBlue Airways, is balancing between passengers and Wall Street.

As he takes control of the New York-based airline Monday, Hayes faces a difficult task: increase profits without destroying the culture that has made JetBlue stand out from other U.S. airlines.

JetBlue, after all, was the first carrier to give passengers free live TV at each seat and is still known for its friendly employees. For years, the airline has resisted charging for a first checked bag and boasted the most generous legroom in the industry. But, while the airline remained profitable, it lagged behind competitors. Wall Street demanded change.

To appease investors, Hayes recently announced that JetBlue will add a fee this spring for the first checked suitcase — a move estimated to bring in an extra \$200 million annually by 2017. It will also add 15 more seats on most of its jets. That should increase the profit per flight, but passengers will lose some personal space.

To the airline's fans, those were jarring decisions. Hayes stayed up until 3 a.m. personally answering the flood of emails.

"People are so passionate



JetBlue's new CEO Robin Hayes, right, talks to one of his airline's pilots at John F. Kennedy International airport in New York. Hayes took over as CEO of JetBlue on Monday, Feb. 16.

(AP Photo/Kathy Willens)

about the JetBlue brand and the JetBlue story. They are very protective of it," Hayes says. "I see that as a good thing."

Hayes, 48, was chosen in September to replace outgoing CEO Dave Barger. He is more receptive to investors than Barger, but JetBlue prides itself on doing right by workers and passengers. So, following the lead of his predecessors, Hayes flies to Orlando, Florida every two weeks to welcome new hires at the airline's orientation and training program. And while he's cramming more seats

into planes, the passengers sitting in them will be getting larger TV screens and almost three times as many channels.

Perhaps it helps that Hayes has always had a love of travel.

Growing up in London, the oldest of three kids, Hayes would create make-believe train timetables.

"As a kid, you know about all these places but have never been. It's just a way of pretending that you are there," he says.

Fascinated with the London Underground, Hayes could tell people the quickest

way from one station to another—and suggest where to stand on the platform to line up perfectly with each station's unique exit.

But flying ended up his true love. Hayes wouldn't take to the sky until he was 18 — a trip with his then girlfriend to Greece. He was hooked. In his first job out of school, Hayes spent a summer working at Boston's Logan International Airport. From 2 p.m. to 10 p.m., he would deliver liquor, cigarettes and other duty free items to passengers boarding flights. As one jet after another departed across the

ocean, Hayes remained at the airport. That solidified his thirst for travel.

With a degree in electrical engineering, Hayes spent a year designing military cockpit avionic systems. He missed interacting with people and quickly found himself working the ticket counter and gates in Glasgow, Scotland, for British Airways.

There were some hiccups along the way. Still new to the company, Hayes was boarding flights at two adjacent gates when he accidentally sent a man who was supposed to fly domestically within Scotland to Germany without a passport.

"I got into a bit of trouble for that, but they didn't fire me," he says. "Mistakes are the best way to learn. My frustration is when people make a mistake and don't want to share it with other people."

Hayes would spend 19 years at British Airways. He met his wife Sue, another British Airways executive, while they were both working at the company's London headquarters. Today they are married and live in Connecticut with their three children.

In 2008, while Hayes was British Airways' executive in charge of operations in North and South America, JetBlue offered him the job of chief commercial officer. □

### World Markets:

## Europe stocks wary on Greece, Asia up on Japan recession end

The Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — European stocks edged lower on Monday as investors were skeptical that Greece and its European creditors would find a quick deal to solve the country's debt problems. Asian stocks, however, closed higher after Japan emerged from recession.

Germany's DAX fell 0.4 percent to close at 10,923.23 and France's CAC 40 dropped 0.2 percent to 4,751.95. Britain's FTSE 100

inched down 0.2 percent to 6,857.05. In Asia, Tokyo's Nikkei 225 jumped 0.5 percent to 18,004.77 and the Shanghai Composite Index added 0.6 percent to 3,222.36. Hong Kong's Hang Seng gained 0.2 percent to 24,726.50. Wall Street is closed for a public holiday.

Eurozone finance ministers meet Monday to consider Greece's proposal for short-term "bridge financing" without the onerous terms previously imposed on the country until a longer-term

solution to Greece's crushing debt is found. Investors hope an agreement will be reached to avoid Greece's exit from the euro. Germany's finance minister on Monday said a quick deal on Monday is unlikely. That pushed Athens' stock index down almost 4 percent.

Asia was buoyed by news Japan emerged from recession last quarter, even though growth fell short of many forecasters' expectations. Data on Monday showed the world's third-largest economy grew at

a 2.2 percent annualized rate in the three months ending in October, boosted by exports and public spending. Growth for 2014 was flat and real wages fell 0.1 percent. Private investment was anemic, suggesting that businesses and households still are cautious. Japan's economy slipped into recession last year after the government increased sales tax in April. "The fact that the economic growth started stabilizing should be reassuring to both the government and

the Bank of Japan," said economist Yoshiro Sato of Credit Agricole-CIB in a report. "That said, the level of real GDP is still far below that before the consumption tax hike and that will require continued efforts made by the government side in terms of structural reforms."

U.S. benchmark crude was up 22 cents at \$53.00 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract gained \$1.57 on Friday to close at \$52.78. □

## Larry Vs. Marco



DAVID BROOKS  
© 2015 New York Times

Pride goeth before a fall. Capitalism's great triumph over socialism has been followed by a series of humbling setbacks since. Capitalism is not necessarily self-regulating, as we learned during the financial crisis. Capitalism does not necessarily lead to democracy abroad. Capitalism does not automatically produce sufficient social mobility. Both Democrats and Republicans are adapting to these realities. Both are moving away from the orthodoxies that dominated the parties in the 1990s. We now have before us two documents that give us a sense of how each party is shifting.

On the Republican side, Marco Rubio, who has become the most intellectually creative of the presidential contenders, has given us a book, "American Dreams." He moves beyond the Reagan-era emphasis on top marginal tax rates. He moves beyond the Mitt Romney distinction between makers and takers. Drawing on work by Yuval Levin, Peter Wehner and the YG Network, he gives us the clearest picture of how Republicans might use government to enhance middle-class prospects.

On the Democratic side, Lawrence Summers and British politician Ed Balls have given us the "Report of the Commission on Inclusive Prosperity." This report smashes the New Democratic approach that defined Bill Clinton's (and an earlier Larry Summers') economic approach. It shows how boldly the Democrats have moved leftward and can be profitably read as a blueprint for a Hillary Clinton presidency.

The Rubio and Summers documents have some overlap. They have a similar sense of the core of the problem: The forces unleashed by globalization and technological change have hit middle-class earnings. Both plans would increase the earned-income tax credit or create similar subsidies. Both would take bold measures to make college affordable, although the Rubio plan is private sector and the Summers plan is public.

In other ways the two visions are different. The Summers document uses the language of social fairness; the Rubio document uses the language of individual virtue. The Summers document puts a bit more emphasis on the demand side of the economy - pumping up middle-class spending - while the Rubio document puts more emphasis on the supply side - incentives to increase

investment.

Summers believes that middle-class wages have been hurt because of changes in the way corporations work; Rubio doesn't. The progressive document implies that finance and corporate boards have rigged the game against the middle class, while Rubio argues that corporate lobbyists have used government to rig the game against small companies. While Summers would make parts of college free, Rubio has a more aggressive plan to reform higher education itself, using online learning.

The contrasts on family policy are fascinating. For a progressive document, the Summers report is clear that two-parent families are important for social mobility. But the proposals would push families toward the sorts of day care arrangements progressives like, encouraging women to stay in the workforce. Rubio is more comfortable talking about family structure. His increased child tax credit would give parents greater leeway in how they want to make choices about child care and work.

The biggest philosophical difference between Rubio and Summers is this: Rubio sees government as a bridge helping people to get into the marketplace, while the Summers document argues that the marketplace is structurally flawed throughout and that government has to be a partner all the way along. Rubio wants to transition to an immigration policy built around drawing high-level skills. He argues that employers should be allowed to immediately deduct every dollar they invest back in their business. He would simplify the tax code into two income tax rates: 15 percent and 35 percent. These proposals reshape the economic landscape but don't get inside business decisions.

The Summers proposals get into the very gears of corporate governance and reshape workplaces on an intimate level. Summers would regulate executive compensation and use government power to encourage long-term investing. He would encourage employee ownership of companies and create mandatory works councils to bring employees into the decision-making process. He would have government ensure that employees have access to paid vacation, sick leave and generous family leave.

The questions for Rubio are: Is his approach sufficient? Will giving people access to contemporary capitalism lead to social mobility or is modern capitalism structurally flawed? The questions for Summers are: Have we forgotten the lessons of the last quarter-century? Do we think government is smart enough to intrude into millions of business decisions? Do we worry that in making hiring more expensive we will get less of it and wind up with European-style sclerosis and unemployment levels? This big hairy problem - insufficient social mobility - has landed in our lap. We don't know what to do. But we are getting some



## Federal Reserve: Money Makes Crazy



PAUL KRUGMAN  
© 2015 New York Times

Monetary policy probably won't be a major issue in the 2016 campaign, but it should be. It is, after all, extremely important, and the Republican base and many leading politicians have strong views about the Federal Reserve and its conduct. And the eventual presidential nominee will surely have to endorse the party line. So it matters that the emerging Republican consensus on money is crazy - full-on conspiracy-theory crazy.

Right now, the most obvious manifestation of money madness is Sen. Rand Paul's "Audit the Fed" campaign. Paul likes to warn that the Fed's efforts to bolster the economy may lead to hyperinflation; he loves talking about the wheelbarrows of cash that people carted around in Weimar Germany. But he's been saying that since 2009, and it keeps not happening. So now he has a new line: The Fed is an overleveraged bank, just as Lehman Brothers was, and could experience a disastrous collapse of confidence any day now.

This story is wrong on so many levels that reporters are having a hard time keeping up, but let's simply note that the Fed's "liabilities" consist of cash, and those who hold that cash have the option of converting it into, well, cash. No, the Fed can't fall victim to a bank run. But is Paul being ostracized for his views? Not at all.

Moreover, while Paul may currently be the poster child for off-the-wall monetary views, he's far from alone. A lot has been written about the 2010 open letter from leading Republicans to Ben Bernanke, then the Fed chairman, demanding that he cease efforts to support the economy, warning that such efforts would lead to inflation and "currency debasement." Less has been written about the simultaneous turn of seemingly respectable figures to conspiracy theories.

There was, for example, the 2010 op-ed article by Rep. Paul Ryan, who remains the Republicans' de facto intellectual leader, and John Taylor, the party's favorite monetary economist. Fed policy, they declared, "looks an awful lot like an attempt to bail out fiscal policy, and such attempts call the Fed's independence into question." That statement looks an awful lot like a claim that Bernanke and colleagues were betraying their trust in order to help out the Obama administration - a claim for which there is no evidence whatsoever.

Oh, and suppose you believe that the Fed's actions did help avert what would otherwise have been a fiscal crisis. This is supposed to be a bad thing?

You may think that at least some of the current presidential aspirants are staying well clear of the fever swamps, but don't be so sure. Jeb Bush appears to be getting his economic agenda, such as it is, from the George W. Bush Institute's 4% Growth Project. And the head of that project, Amity Shlaes, is a prominent "inflation truthter," someone who claims that the government is greatly understating the true rate of inflation.

So monetary crazy is pervasive in today's Republican Party. But why? Class interests no doubt play a role - the wealthy tend to be lenders rather than borrowers, and they benefit at least in relative terms from deflationary

policies. But I also suspect that conservatives have a deep psychological problem with modern monetary systems.

You see, in the conservative worldview, markets aren't just a useful way to organize the economy; they're a moral structure: People get paid what they deserve, and what goods cost is what they are truly worth to society. You could say that to the free-market true believer, to know the price of everything is also to know the value of everything.

Modern money - consisting of pieces of paper or their digital equivalent that are issued by the Fed, not created by the heroic efforts of entrepreneurs - is an affront to that worldview. Ryan is on record declaring that his views on monetary policy come from a speech given by one of Ayn Rand's fictional characters. And what the speaker declares is that money is "the base of a moral existence."

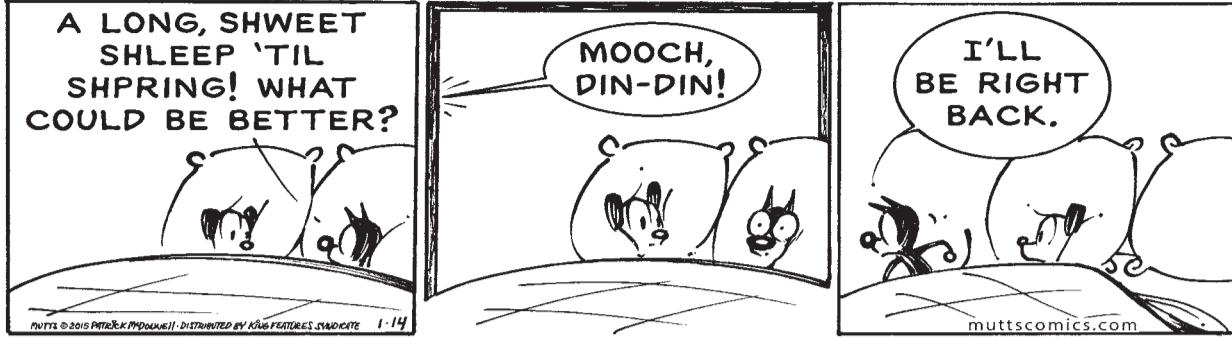
Destroyers seize gold and leave to its owners a counterfeit pile of paper. ... Paper is a check drawn by legal looters."

Once you understand that this is how many conservatives really think, it all falls into place. Of course they predict disaster from monetary expansion, no matter the circumstances. Of course they are undaunted in their views no matter how wrong their predictions have been in the past. Of course they are quick to accuse the Fed of vile motives. From their point of view, monetary policy isn't really a technical issue, a question of what works; it's a matter of theology: Printing money is evil.

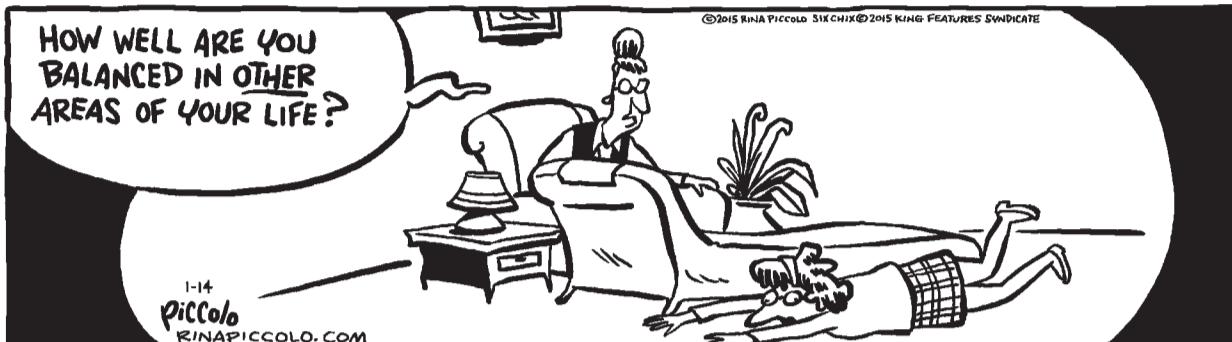
So as I said, monetary policy should be an issue in 2016. Because there's a pretty good chance that someone who either gets his monetary economics from Ayn Rand, or at any rate feels the need to defer to such views, will get to appoint the next head of the Federal Reserve. □

## Conceptis Sudoku

# Mutts



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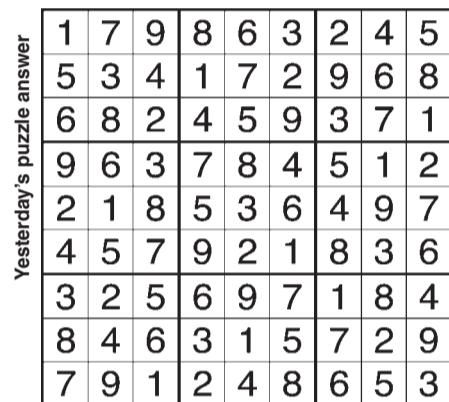
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1 / 14

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.



ss

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathew

## Tuesday's Puzzle Solved



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# TEST

## CARIBBEAN

St. Kitts PM  
seeks his 5th  
consecutive  
term in vote

**BASSETERRE, St. Kitts (AP)** — Prime Minister Denzil Douglas on Monday was seeking his fifth consecutive term leading St. Kitts and Nevis, competing against an alliance of opposition factions seeking to unseat his administration. Douglas is the Caribbean's longest serving leader, first coming to office 20 years ago. The 62-year-old prime minister is leading his governing Labor Party in Monday parliamentary elections against Team Unity, an opposition coalition led by veteran politician Timothy Harris. Harris is a former minister in Douglas' Cabinet who left the government about two years ago along with then-Deputy Prime Minister Sam Condor to form their own political party. Harris and opposition candidates have accused Douglas' administration of autocratic tendencies and making poor economic decisions, among other charges. They have vowed to lower the cost of living, remove a value-added tax from foods and medicine, and create some 2,000 new jobs. Douglas's party says his government has steadily improved St. Kitts economy with debt restructuring and an economic recovery program monitored by the International Monetary Fund. They say their leadership has improved national pride and boosted the tourism industry, partly with a citizenship-by-investment scheme that has lured foreign investors. Teams with the Caribbean Community, Organization of American States and other groups are observing Monday's vote. There are roughly 36,000 registered voters on the tiny islands with a tourism-based economy and a high rate of public debt. Last week, the London-based Privy Council ruled that Monday's elections in St. Kitts and Nevis must be held on constituency boundaries set before Douglas' government attempted to change them in recent weeks. □

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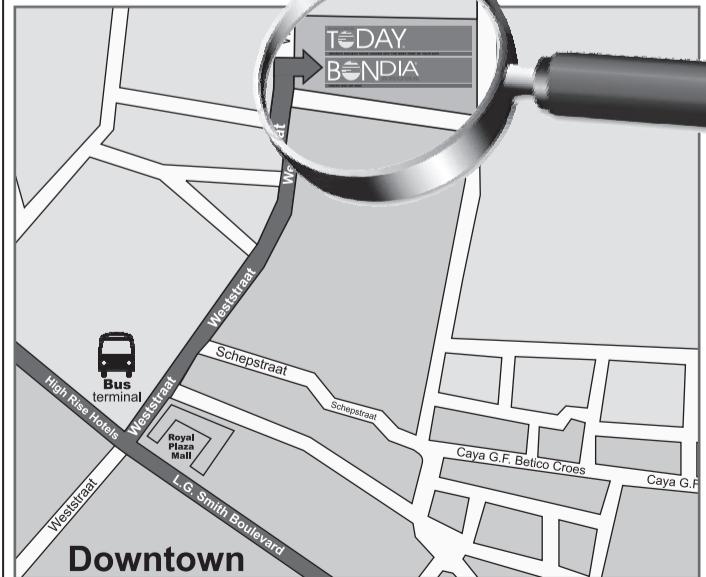
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## Should we call the cosmos seeking ET? Or is that risky?

SETH BORENSTEIN

AP Science Writer

SAN JOSE, California (AP)

— Astronomers looking for alien life have sat for decades by their telescopes, waiting to hear from E.T. It didn't happen, so now some of them want to beam messages out into the void and invite the closest few thousand worlds to chat or even visit.

Others scientists, including Stephen Hawking, think that's crazy, warning that instead of sweet and gentle E.T., we may get something like the planet-conquering aliens from "Independence Day." The consequences, they say, could be catastrophic.

But calling out there ourselves may be the only way to find out if we are not alone, and humanity may benefit from alien intelligence, said Douglas A. Vakoch, whose title is director of interstellar message composition at the SETI Institute in Mountain View, California. SETI stands for Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence, and until now it's been mostly a listening-type thing.

This dispute — which mixes astronomy, science fiction, philosophy, the law, mathematics and a touch of silliness — broke out Thursday and Friday at a convention in San Jose of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

And this week several prominent space experts, including Space X founder Elon Musk and planet hunter Geoff Marcy, started a



This undated handout photo provided by Seth Shostak, SETI Institute, shows the Arecibo radio telescope in Puerto Rico. The world's largest single antenna, it has a million watt transmitter.

Associated Press

petition cautioning against sending out such messages, saying it is impossible to predict whether extraterrestrial life will be benign or hostile.

Vakoch is hosting a separate conference Saturday at the SETI Institute on the calling-all-aliens proposal and what the messages should say.

The idea is called active SETI, and according to Vakoch would involve the beaming of messages via radar and perhaps eventually lasers.

There have been a few small and unlikely-to-work efforts to beam messages

out there in the past, including NASA sending the Beatles song "Across the Universe" into the cosmos in 2008. NASA's Voyager probe recently left the solar system with a "golden record" created by Carl Sagan with a message, and the space agency's New Horizon probe will also have greetings on it by the time it exits the solar system.

But what scientists are now talking about is a co-ordinated and sustained million-dollar-a-year effort with approval from some kind of science or international body and a message that people agree on.

It's an "attempt to join the galactic club," Vakoch said. He assured a crowd of reporters: "There's no danger of alien invasion from active SETI."

But as a science fiction author, as well as an astrophysicist, David Brin thinks inviting aliens here is a bad idea. Even if there is a low risk of a nasty creature coming, the consequences could be extreme.

"I can't bring myself to wager my grandchildren's destiny on unreliable assumptions" about benevolent aliens, Brin said.

Brin noted that European explorers brought slaughter

and disease to less technologically advanced people in the Americas more than 500 years ago. He called for the science community to put efforts on hold for an ethical and scientific discussion.

As Brin, Shostak, Vakoch and others sparred at a news conference, 84-year-old Frank Drake sat in the back quietly. Drake, a pioneer in the search for extraterrestrial life, created the formula called Drake's Equation that scientists use to estimate the chances that other life is out there. More than 40 years ago, Drake and Sagan beamed a message into space to look for aliens, a first for Earth.

It was a short message from the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico, and it was aimed at a star cluster called Messier 13. It will take 25,000 years to get there, Drake said.

"The probability of succeeding is infinitesimally small," Drake said, rolling out incredible amount of time it takes messages to go back and forth and his estimate that the average civilization will last only 10,000 years.

So why'd he do it? Curiosity, Drake said. And it doesn't matter if our civilization is gone by the time E.T. answers, if he does.

"We get messages from the ancient Greeks and Romans and Socrates all the time, long since gone. Still valuable," Drake said.

"We're going to do the archaeology of the future." □

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# 'Fifty Shades of Grey' whips up stunning \$81.7 million

LINDSEY BAHR

AP Film Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Audiences were more than curious to check out the big-screen adaptation of the racy phenomenon "Fifty Shades of Grey" this weekend. The erotic drama sizzled in its debut, earning an estimated \$81.7 million from 3,646 theaters in its first three days, distributor Universal Pictures said on Sunday.

In addition to destroying Valentine's and Presidents Day weekend records, "Fifty Shades of Grey" has also become the second-highest February debut ever, behind "Passion of the Christ's" \$83.9 million opening in 2004.

The chart-topping film cost a modest \$40 million to produce. Starring Dakota Johnson and Jamie Dornan as Anastasia Steele and Christian Grey, it could be on track to earn over \$90 million across the four-day holiday weekend.

"Our fondest wishes were realized," said Universal's President of Domestic Distribution Nick Carpou. "This is one of those moments where I can speak for the entire studio and say we're celebrating."

Carpou was especially pleased that audiences in



In this image released by Universal Pictures and Focus Features, Dakota Johnson, left, and Jamie Dornan appear in a scene from the film, "Fifty Shades of Grey."

Associated Press

large, mid-size, and small markets turned out to see the film despite severe weather challenges in the Northeast.

"We had a tremendous amount of interest from small-town exhibitors," said Carpou, noting strong outings in the South. "That speaks to their patrons really wanting to see the film as soon as possible and be part of what everyone is talking about."

According to Universal,

North American audiences were 68 percent female. Internationally, director Sam Taylor-Johnson's adaptation of British author E L James' book earned an estimated \$158 million from 9,637 locations in 58 territories. That's the second biggest international opening for Universal, right behind the \$160.3 million debut from "Fast & Furious 6," and the highest international opening for an R-rated film ever.

"Those are summer-style blockbuster numbers in February," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box office firm Rentrak.

"Controversy, or at least the conversation that's created by 'Fifty Shades of Grey,' suddenly infuses this movie into the mainstream conversation," he added. "They had to very carefully create a movie that was edgy, push the envelope, but without going too far to

make it socially unacceptable."

Director Matthew Vaughn's "Kingsman: The Secret Service" also exceeded expectations, landing in second place with an estimated \$35.6 million from 3,204 locations across the three-day period, according to Rentrak. The R-rated comic book adaptation starring Colin Firth and Samuel L. Jackson cost a reported \$81 million to produce and should earn around \$41 million across the four-day period.

Animated children's film "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water" came in third with \$30.5 million in its second weekend in theaters, falling only 45 percent.

As one of the few family-friendly options in theaters, Paramount's PG-rated movie could pass \$100 million by the end of the holiday weekend.

Rounding out the top five were holdovers "American Sniper," with \$16.4 million, and "Jupiter Ascending," with \$9.4 million.

The Oscar-nominated "American Sniper," now in its fifth weekend of wide release, has earned over \$300 million in North America to date. □

## 'It's My Party' singer-songwriter Lesley Gore dies at 68

MARK KENNEDY

AP Entertainment Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Singer-songwriter Lesley Gore, who topped the charts in 1963 with her epic song of teenage angst, "It's My Party," and followed it up with the hits "Judy's Turn to Cry," "You Don't Own Me" and the feminist anthem "You Don't Own Me," died Monday. She was 68.

Gore died of cancer at New York University Langone Medical Center in Manhattan, according to her partner of 33 years, Lois Sasson.

"She was a wonderful human being — caring, giving, a great feminist, great woman, great human being, great humanitarian," Sasson, a jewelry designer,

told The Associated Press. Brooklyn-born and New Jersey-raised, Gore was discovered by Quincy Jones as a teenager and signed to Mercury Records. She graduated from Sarah Lawrence College with a degree in English/American literature. Gore's other hits include "She's A Fool," "Sunshine, Lollipops and Rainbows," "That's the Way Boys Are" and "Maybe I Know." She co-wrote with her brother, Michael, the Academy Award-nominated "Out Here On My Own" from the film "Fame."

She also played Catwoman's sidekick in the cult TV comedy "Batman." In the 1990s, Gore co-wrote "My Secret Love" for Allison

Anders' film "Grace of My Heart," released in 1996. A couple of years later, she appeared in "Smoky Joe's Cafe"

on Broadway. Gore had been working on a stage version of her life with playwright Mark Hampton when she died.

In 2005, she released "Ever Since," her first album in 30 years, but was sure to revisit older hits in front of fans. "If I've learned anything in this business," she told The New York Times that year, "how stupid would it be not to do 'It's My Party' when people come to hear it?"

She officially came out to the public when she hosted several episodes of the PBS series, "In The Life," which dealt with gay and



In this Tuesday, April 22, 2008, file photo, Lesley Gore performs at the ASCAP musical tribute which honored Quincy Jones with the ASCAP Pied Piper Award, in New York.

Associated Press

lesbian issues.

In the last few years, she performed at Feinstein's at the Loews Regency in New York and, along

with Ronnie Spector and LaLa Brooks, headlined the "She's Got the Power" concert outdoors at Lincoln Center in 2012. □



In this Sunday, Feb. 8, 2015 file photo, Sophie Hunter, left, and Benedict Cumberbatch arrive for the British Academy Film and Television Awards 2015 at the Royal Opera House in London.

Associated Press

## Actor Benedict Cumberbatch weds Sophie Hunter

**LONDON (AP)** — Oscar-nominated actor Benedict Cumberbatch has married theater director Sophie Hunter, choosing to tie the knot in a Valentine's Day ceremony on the Isle of Wight.

Cumberbatch's spokeswoman, Karon Maskill, on Sunday confirmed the couple had wed this weekend, surrounded by close family and friends.

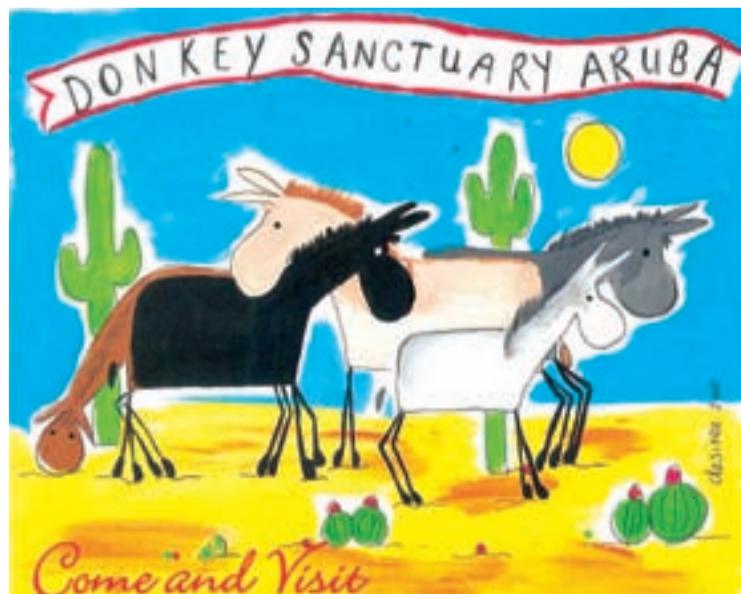
The 38-year-old Cumberbatch rose to prominence with his modern-day portrayal of the cerebral sleuth in "Sherlock." He has been shortlisted for an Oscar for his role as code-breaking genius Alan Turing in "The Imitation Game." Turing helped win World War II with his work on cracking Nazi codes, but he was later prosecuted for homosexuality and committed suicide.

Hunter, 36, and Cumberbatch appeared together in the 2009 thriller "Burlesque Fairytales." The couple, who announced their engagement with an eight-line item in the Times of London in November, said last month they are expecting their first child.

Britain's Daily Telegraph reported that Hunter arrived at the 12th Century St. Peter & St. Paul church at about 3:20 p.m. Saturday. About 40 minutes later, three loud cheers erupted.

The Daily Mail featured photographs of Andrew Scott, who plays Moriarty in "Sherlock," among the guests.

"It was a magical day," Maskill said. □



## Producers promise Oscar night filled with magic and song

SANDY COHEN

AP Entertainment Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Lady Gaga. Jennifer Hudson. Common and John Legend. Adam Levine. Rita Ora. Tegan & Sara. Tim McGraw.

This isn't the lineup for an upcoming pop concert, but rather for Sunday's Academy Awards.

"We want to entertain," said Neil Meron, producing his third consecutive Oscar ceremony with Craig Zadan. "And there's no better entertainment than to do it with music."

Host Neil Patrick Harris will perform an original song by the Oscar-winning writers behind "Let It Go," the producers said. Called "Moving Pictures," the musical number will set a "subliminal theme" for the evening, Meron said.

"It really is celebratory about movies and yet it's kind of cheeky in a way," he said. "But yet it has a beautiful musical motif which... we integrate throughout the show as kind of a call-back theme." Added Zadan: "We didn't want to do a musical number that could have been on the Tonys, or anywhere else for that matter."

"It's a multimedia musical number," he said, "something that we've not done before."

Music is part of the production pair's professional DNA, though. The two produced the "The Sound of Music" and "Peter Pan" live TV specials, as well as the movie musicals "Hairspray" and "Chicago," which won the best picture Oscar in 2003.

The producers said they started booking musical acts even before they learned the year's nominees. But they were delighted with the nominated original songs.

"We were smiled upon in that respect," Meron said. A spate of stars will bring those songs to life on the Oscar stage. Common and Legend are set to perform their song, "Glory," from "Selma."



This Nov. 16, 2013 photo provided by courtesy of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences shows producers Craig Zadan, left, and Neil Meron attending the 2013 Governors Awards at The Ray Dolby Ballroom at Hollywood & Highland Center in Hollywood, Calif.

Associated Press

Levine will sing "Lost Stars" from "Begin Again." Ora will take on Diane Warren's song from "Beyond the Lights," "Grateful." Tegan & Sara will join with The Lonely Island for "The Lego Movie" song, "Everything is Awesome." McGraw will perform Glen Campbell's song "I'm Not Gonna Miss You," from the documentary about his struggle with Alzheimer's, "Glen Campbell... I'll Be Me."

The producers wouldn't say what Hudson, Gaga and other entertainers, including Jack Black and Anna Kendrick, will sing. Suspense about their performances will have to stand in for the lack of suspense for most of the acting categories. Patricia Arquette of "Boyhood" and J.K. Simmons of "Whiplash" have locked up supporting-actor awards all season, and Julianne Moore is shoo-in for the best-actress Oscar for "Still Alice."

The lead actor competition has some excitement, with Michael Keaton of "Birdman" and Eddie Redmayne of "The Theory of Everything" splitting many

of the early honors.

"Birdman" and "The Grand Budapest Hotel" lead all nominees with nine bids apiece, including best picture, director, cinematography and original screenplay. Also up for best picture are "American Sniper," "Boyhood," "The Imitation Game," "The Theory of Everything," "Selma" and "Whiplash."

Among the highlights of last year's top-rated ceremony was host Ellen DeGeneres' surprise pizza delivery and superstar-selfie moment. Meron and Zadan wouldn't say what antics are planned this year — if they're planned at all.

"Everyone thinks that we pre-planned the selfie and pizza thing exactly the way they happened last year, but we didn't!" Zadan insisted, detailing the various ways the bits could have gone wrong: "Nobody takes a piece of pizza, and then it's weird. Ellen is standing there with pizza." But they do promise real magic on Oscar night. After all, host Harris is a magician. □



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